

Comment on Proposed Media-Ownership Rules - Complaint against further consolidation of nation's news media

I come from Colorado, where one of the first radio stations to be usurped following the 1996 Telecommunications Bill relaxation is located. That station is KBCO, and radio in the state has been tragic and monopolistic in the following years. Now, you at the FCC are proposing to further the media market coalescence in a manner of making legal the acquisition of television and radio outlets in the same markets. This is very troublesome as US media outlets are already severely neglecting the public good by limiting access to timely, relevant, and news worthy topics. Luckily, some people are fortunate enough to receive the BBC (England), CBC (Canada), or community radio/TV formatting. Others are not that lucky. What troubles me even more is that if you at the FCC also regulated print, internet, and facsimile ownership, that they would also be included in this sweeping and undemocratic legislation. Thank goodness this is not the case.

What is proposed will limit community and local inputs into public media, ensure that only those with high financial means will have access to both TV and radio channels, and just as has happened with the nations airwaves, make certain that a superficial and trivial mass-marketed news reporting is propagated nationwide. News Corporation, Gannett, and Disney Co. are not an oligopolistic paring that can result in anything good, but only be a detriment to the United States, the US people, and a soon to be uninformed citizenry with no knowledge of the world's problems and no outlets to investigate the spoon-fed dialogue.

You are considering to handover to corporate multinationals the very essence of our republic, diverse information outlets. And for what? Because they exemplify the special interest that is leading this nation into the ground.

S. Freeman